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INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY Bulgaria

DATE DISTR. 5 JUN 80

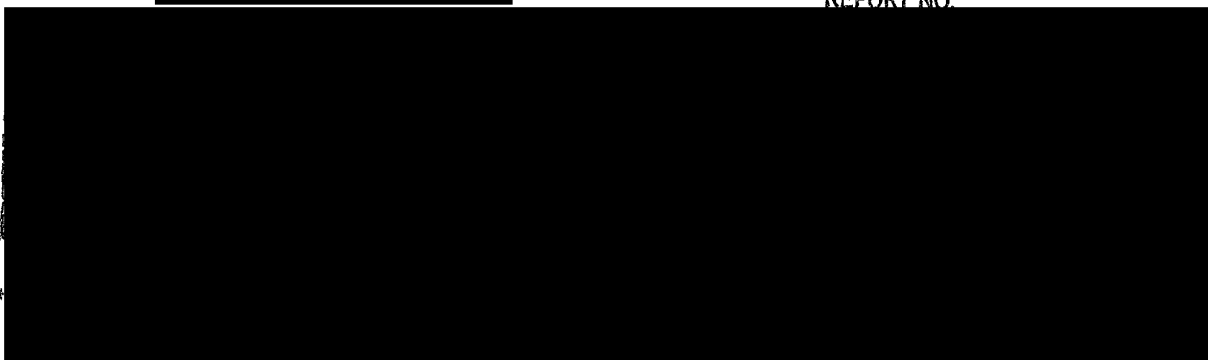
SUBJECT Soviet Control and Organization of Foreign Trade in Bulgaria

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- 25X1X6
1. Under the Kostov regime, the Soviets tried, not very successfully, to control Bulgaria through the Communist Party. Since the elimination of Kostov, the Soviets have resorted to direct control over the main branches of industry and transport.
  2. Vassili Zaitzev, the Soviet Economic Adviser to the Council of Ministers, fills the role of a Soviet economic dictator. The Soviets also have control over the State Commission for Planning.
  3. Prices as well as exports and imports are controlled by the Soviets. Up to the end of 1949, wages, working hours, and production norms were still regulated by the Bulgarians, who also controlled tariffs.
  4. Since September 1949, no private firm has been allowed to handle exports. Only state trading agencies, e.g. Hranexport and Rodexport handle export trade.
  5. The first stage in arranging for export is to file an application with the Ministry of Foreign Trade under a special formula, giving the following details:
    - a. Nature of the deal, e.g. barter, clearing agreement or free currency.
    - b. Details of purchaser, nature of goods, quantity, quality, price per unit, total value, nature of payment, e.g. cash credit, et cetera.
  6. After agreement in principle to the export has been received from the Commission for Trade Policy, an application has then to be made for a concrete export permit which is obtainable from the Ministry of Foreign Trade and must afterwards be approved by the National Bank of Bulgaria. This second application must be accompanied by full details giving prices, consignee, method and cost of transport, invoices, percentage of currency to be handed over to the National Bank and credit given.

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